



Amy Carey **Perrysburg, Ohio**

Biography

Teaching and positively influencing the lives of young children and their families has been my passion since high school. It is my hope that the children in my classroom will become confident, independent, and empathetic, while learning to constantly explore and embrace the fact that knowledge should be enjoyed and can be gained in every realm and domain of life. I have been involved in the Early Childhood Field for 15 years and have been a Toddler Teacher at Owens Community College Lab School for the past 5 years. I have recently earned my Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and am a trainer of the Ohio Infant and Toddler Guidelines where I train the six modules of the Guidelines to Infant and Toddler Teachers. These two opportunities have helped me to gain extensive knowledge in child development and rethink how to interact and encourage the children to take a more active role in the classroom. I have been married to my wonderful husband Ken for 9 years and we are the proud parents of three beautiful girls. My family is my backbone and their support and encouragement of my professional career is amazing. My husband is always supporting me to attend workshops and conferences that will help me enhance my teaching and classroom environment and my daughters enjoy helping me prepare materials for lesson plans and researching new ideas.



Project- "Rock Garden Project"

My project is to build, with the children's involvement, an expanded rock garden that would enhance the children's learning and create a space that the Owens Community College Child Care Center and campus would use and be proud of. Our rock project, which began back in August of 2009 and is based on the Reggio Emilia Philosophy, was the inspiration of how our rock garden began. Our rock garden bloomed out of our visit to the Owens Community College Findlay Campus rock garden where the children became excited and wanted to begin building a rock garden of their own. As a class, we discussed how to begin building a rock garden, what we would need, and where we should build it. Through repeated discussions, observations, and research we were able to find and begin building our rock garden. The children and I have currently begun a small rock garden that has become the focal point of our center as well as the College as a whole. As a class, the children and I have worked together to talk about what we would want to add to our garden such as a bench, fountain, solar lights, planters, and a glass decorative ball. These items would be a wonderful addition to the rocks that we have already added to our garden. Our current rocks in the rock garden were a culmination of individually decorated rocks from the children, parents, and staff from our center. We are hoping to make this an area where children, families, staff, and members of the community can gather, reflect, and come together as a whole.